

(b) whether they would afford to this House an opportunity for discussing the same?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(a) and (b) It will be considered after the discussion on the Report by the Legislature before which it has been placed.

Road from Punnamood to the Vellayani temple.

142. ***MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Neyyattinkara II*): With reference to the answer to question No. 74 of the Fifth Session of this House, will the Government be pleased to state the further progress made with regard to the opening of the road?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): The Chief Engineer has been asked to send up an estimate for the work and to obtain written statements from the interested people agreeing to surrender the required land free of compensation and also to ascertain whether the people are willing to do the necessary earth-work either themselves or at their cost.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): May I know, Sir, excluding the price for land and the cost of labour, what will be the nature of the expenditure that Government have to incur in opening this road?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, buildings and Irrigation*): Government will have to incur very much. The road has to be metalled and that is an expensive item.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): May I know whether the Chief Engineer has taken any pain to ascertain whether the people are willing to surrender land without any compensation?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): Yes.

The Willingdon Water Works.

143. ***MR. G. NILAKANTAN** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of maintenance per annum to be incurred for the Water Works in the town of Trivandrum;

(b) whether the whole cost is to be met by the Trivandrum Municipality; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) is in the affirmative, the percentage of taxation to be imposed?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*):

(a) Rs. 91,442 for the current year.

(b) For the present, the whole cost is to be met by the Municipality.

(c) Considering that a rate of 3 per cent. would not be sufficient to meet the whole cost, Government suggested to the Municipality to levy a water-tax of 5 per cent. on the annual rental value of the building within the town, but the Municipality decided to levy only a tax of 3 per cent. and this has been done on the responsibility of the Municipality.